

Sittingbourne & Milton Urban
District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

*Health, Sanitary and Casualty
Services*

OF

Sittingbourne and Milton

*For the Year ending December 31st,
1942*

BY

FREDERICK WOLVERSON

J.P., M.D.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



A Report by the Sanitary Inspector (Mr.
Joseph Varley) is included

Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District Council

(July, 1943)

Chairman—R. J. GOLDSMITH, Esq., J.P.

Vice-Chairman—H. FOSTER, Esq., J.P.

COUNCILLOR Rev. H. BRADBURN.*

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„ C. F. CLOKE.*

(Chairman of Health Committee).

„ G. W. DEAN.*

„ L. M. EASTON.

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„ Mrs. H. HARVEY.*

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„ F. J. MILLEN.*

„ F. W. SEARS.*

„ F. L. WALSH.

„ P. L. WELLS, J.P.*

NOTE.—Those marked * are Members of the Health Committee.

Clerk to the Council—G. H. POTTER.

Medical Officer of Health—

FREDERICK WOLVERSON, M.D., C.M.

The Medical Officer of Health is in charge of the A.R.P. Casualty Services of the town, is Medical Officer to the Infant Welfare Clinic, acts as Assistant County Medical Officer of Kent in respect of all Sittingbourne and Milton Schools, and is the Administrative Medical Officer to Keycol Hill Infectious Diseases Hospital and Tuberculosis Sanatorium.

Medical Officer to Clinic for Expectant Mothers—

HILDA K. BRADE-BIRKS, M.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Finance Officer—W. BALSON, A.I.A.C.

Surveyors—

M. W. LASHMAR, M.Inst.M. and Cy.E.

A. W. CALLAWAY, M. & C.E., M.R.S.I.

Sanitary Inspector—

JOSEPH VARLEY, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Health Visitors—

Miss MABEL REESE, S.R.N., etc.,
Senior H.V.

Miss C. POYSER,
S.R.N., etc.

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SITTINGBOURNE AND MILTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Health Department,
Church Street, Sittingbourne.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,—

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health, sanitary and casualty services of the Urban District for the year 1942.

The health of the district is still satisfactory and it is a matter for congratulation that in this area, as in other parts of the country, there is no serious effect upon the health of the people produced by war conditions.

In my work among school children, I do not find any increase in the number of cases of malnutrition. The shortage of sweets and chocolates may be indeed a blessing in disguise. Sittingbourne has the advantage of being the centre of a large fruit growing district and generally speaking fruit is procurable all the year round. The Government distribution of fruit juice and cod liver oil has been organized from my department and has been fairly popular, although, as always, the children most in need of these benefits are often denied them by the carelessness and indifference of their parents. Oranges have been procurable at various times. The allotment of tomatoes in June, 1942, was most unsatisfactory as far as this town was concerned. For three weeks tomatoes easily obtainable in practically every town in Kent were unprocurable in Sittingbourne.

The milk distribution scheme for school children has worked well with incalculable benefit to the recipients.

Population.

The Registrar-General's estimate for the year is 19,270, compared with 19,880 in 1941.

Birth Rate.

The corrected rate was 16 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population during the calendar year, 1st January—31st December, inclusive.

Death Rate.

The corrected rate was 12.08 per 1,000 estimated average population, compared with 12.42 per 1,000 in 1941.

Infant Mortality Rate.

There were 16 deaths of infants under one year of age, making the death rate 51 per 1,000 births. The rate for England is 49 per 1,000 births,

Tuberculosis Death Rate.

This was 0.4 per 1,000 of the population.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Services are functioning well, and the attendance at all Clinics has increased.

Of the 309 children born in Sittingbourne and Milton during 1942, 182 were brought to the Clinic at some time during their first year, *i.e.*, a percentage of 59, as compared with 66.7 in 1941.

Owing to increased professional responsibilities, Dr. Hilda Brade-Birks has resigned her position as Medical Officer to the Clinic for Expectant Mothers as from 1st October, 1943. Dr. Brade-Birks was appointed in April, 1936, and during the seven years which have elapsed she has built up an excellent organization which has done, and is still doing, work of a highly beneficial character. The termination of her connection with Sittingbourne and Milton is a matter of regret to her colleagues, her patients and to the Council.

Immunisation Against Diphtheria.

During the year, 252 school children, and 258 children under school age, were immunised against diphtheria by the Medical Officer of Health. Many others were treated by private Practitioners. A monthly Clinic is now held for this purpose.

In 1941 the comparative figures were 2,897 and 562 respectively. The reason for this divergence in numbers is, of course, that in the latter year the service was initiated by an intensive campaign. Practically the whole of the school population was then immunised. As an example of this it may be stated that in a certain school department in the town there were in 1941, 171 children. Of these, 170 had been immunised and the remaining one developed diphtheria. Fifty children from Swale area were immunised by this department during the year.

Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Keycol Hill Hospital is still well and effectively conducted.

Shortage of staff continues to be the great difficulty with which the administration has to contend.

An X-ray unit has been accepted by the Joint Board for installation in the Sanatorium.

The Rushcliffe scheme of remuneration for Nurses has been adopted by the Board.

Typhus Fever.

The Ministry issued certain instructions with regard to the above disease in November, 1941.

After much negotiation an arrangement has been entered into for the County to undertake the treatment of this disease, and facilities are to be available for the reception of all cases at Bow and Arrow Hospital, Dartford.

Scabies.

In November, 1941, under the Defence Regulations, the Ministry of Health gave compulsory powers to the Medical Officers of Health to deal with this disease.

The Cleansing Station established in May, 1942, at Keycol has been of the greatest value in the treatment of the disease and a considerable number of cases has been dealt with and cured.

Small Pox.

This authority, in common with many others, has no provision for the reception of Small Pox cases. The small pest houses provided 40 years ago in many parts of the country have fallen into desuetude and disrepair and are useless for modern requirements. Present day facility of transport renders unnecessary local provision for rare diseases such as this. In the event of cases occurring, the County of Kent in conjunction with the Ministry of Health will earmark a hospital for this purpose. Vaccination if universally accepted would render even this procedure unnecessary. As always, in this imperfect world, ignorance and prejudice stand in the way. In the year 1942 135 children were denied protection from Small Pox by their parents in this Urban District.

My thanks are due to the Council, Health Committee and my Staff for co-operation and help during the year.

I have the honour to remain, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentleman,

Your obedient servant,

F. WOLVERSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

July 1st, 1943.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS CASUALTY SERVICES.

The A.R.P. Casualty Services are under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health (acting by the authority of the A.R.P. Committee, Percy Wells, Esq., J.P., Sub-Controller).

The organisation includes a fully equipped First Aid Post and Cleansing Centre at Johnson House, Burley Road, Sittingbourne, and a Mobile Unit based on the Ambulance Dépôt, Chalkwell Road.

There are 9 Ambulances, 6 First Aid Party Cars, and 6 Sitting Case Cars.

The fleet is dispersed in three dépôts, and is capable of mobilisation in a few minutes, day or night. The personnel, which is almost entirely voluntary, is as follows :—

Transport and Ambulance Officer, W. J. Peacock, Esq., J.P. Mr. Peacock acts as Assistant to the Medical Officer of Health for all casualty services, and as his Deputy when necessary. He is the Association County Secretary for St. John Ambulance Association.

Mr. L. R. Dence is Divisional Superintendent of St. John Ambulance Brigade.

The Medical Officers in charge of the First Aid Post and the Mobile Unit for operational and training purposes, are :—Dr. Alexander Chalmers and Dr. Kenneth Hardy.

Sister in Charge, Miss V. A. D. Sales, S.R.N.

Lady Superintendent for St. John Ambulance Brigade, Mrs. M. Dobbie.

Thirty-five Nurses, all voluntary, of whom 8 are members of the Civil Nursing Reserve.

Superintendent Telephonist, Mrs. W. J. Peacock.

The whole of the medical and nursing staff is operationally interchangeable between the First Aid Post and Mobile Unit, as directed by the Medical Officer of Health.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

The Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District Council is autonomous in respect of Maternity and Child Welfare.

Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee consists of the Health Committee and the following co-opted members :—Mrs. F. S. Spice, Mrs. F. Wells, Mrs. I. Porter, Mrs. J. H. High.

Day Nursery Sub-Committee. This consists of members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee and other representatives from local Associations.

Returns Giving Particulars of the Work Done During 1942.

1. Population of the area served by the Council, 19,270.
2. Number of births notified in the area during the year under Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, as adjusted by any transferred notifications :—(a) Live Births, 309 ; (b) Still Births, 9. Total, 318.
3. **Health Visiting.**
 Number of Health Visitors employed at the end of the year by the Council, 2.
 Number of visits paid during the year by Health Visitors, 4,009.
 - (i) To expectant mothers. First visits, 30. Total visits, 68.
 - (ii) To children under 1 year of age. First visits, 307. Total visits, 1,234.
 - (iii) To children between the ages of 1 and 5 years. Total visits, 2,677.
4. **Infant Welfare Centres.**
 - (a) Number of Centres provided and maintained by the Council, 1.
 - (b) Total number of children who first attended at the Centre during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance, were :—
 - (i) Under 1 year of age, 182.
 - (ii) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years, 54.
 - (c) Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the Centres during the year, and who, at the end of the year, were :—
 - (i) Under 1 year of age, 151.
 - (ii) Over 1 year of age, 407.
 - (d) Total number of attendances of children under 5 at Clinic during 1942, 3,653.
 - (e) Total number of consultations given by Medical Officer of Health, 1,026.
 - (f) Total number of children who received Dental Treatment, 22.
5. **Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Services.**
 - (i) Number of Clinics provided and maintained by the Council, 1.

- Total number of women who attended at the Clinic during the year, 168, as compared with 146 in 1941.
- (ii) Total number of attendances made during year, 676, as compared with 513 in 1941.
- (iii) Number of women sent during the year to a Maternity Institution, 18.

EXPECTANT MOTHERS' CLINIC.

Under the care of Dr. Hilda Brade-Birks.

The average attendance for the whole of the year was 13.25 per Clinic. The average attendance for 1941 was 9.8. Of the total number of attendances made during the year at the Clinic, that is 676, 512 were of women of Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District, and 164 were of women from the surrounding county area.

Of the total number of women who attended during the year, that is to say, 168, 114 were residents of the Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District, and 54 came from the county districts surrounding.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION (Sections 206 to 220 of the Public Health Act, 1936).

- (a) Number of persons who were receiving children for reward at the end of the year, 9.
- (b) Number of children on the Register :—
- (1) At the end of the year, 9.
 - (2) Who died during the year, Nil.
 - (3) On whom inquests were held during the year, Nil.
- (c) Proceedings taken during the year :—
- Number of Cases, Nil.
- Act and Section under which proceedings were taken, Nil.

REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES (Sections 187 to 194 of the Public Health Act, 1936).

Number of Homes		Number of Patients provided for		
		Maternity Patients	Others	Totals
Homes first registered during the year 1942... ..	—	—	—	—
Homes on the register at the end of the year 1942 ...	1	1	—	1
	1	1	—	1

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. **Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.**—One, Health Department, Church Street, Sittingbourne, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, 2 to 4. By Health Committee.

2. **Clinic for Expectant Mothers.**—One, at Health Department, Church Street, Sittingbourne, every Wednesday afternoon, from 2 p.m. to 4. By Health Committee.

Dental treatment, including the provision of artificial teeth, is provided for Expectant and Nursing Mothers, and also extractions for children under 5. This is carried out at the County Dental Clinic by arrangement with the Kent Education Committee.

An agreement has been made with certain Hospitals to provide for the operative treatment of Tonsils and Adenoids, and for the treatment of Ophthalmia in new born children.

Arrangements are also made in cases of complicated pregnancy for the patient to be seen by an Obstetric Specialist, and if he advises, to be taken into a Hospital for treatment.

Patients are admitted to certain Maternity Homes where circumstances or conditions render it desirable that the confinement should not take place at home.

In necessitous cases the cost of all these services is partly or wholly borne by the Health Committee. All cases must be approved by the Medical Officer of Health for submission to the Committee.

3. **Immunisation against Diphtheria.**—By Local Authority. A Clinic for this purpose is held every month.

A notice is sent to the parent of every child on its attaining the age of one year, and propaganda is undertaken by Health Visitors, School Teachers, etc.

4. **School Clinics and Treatment Centres.**—Minor Ailments Clinic, Albany Road, Sittingbourne, Saturday mornings, 9.30 a.m. By County Council.

5. **Dental Clinic.** — Albany Road, Sittingbourne, by appointment. By County Council.

6. **Ophthalmic Clinic.**—Albany Road, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the month. By County Council.

7. **Aural Clinic.**—Albany Road, by County Council. Aural Surgeon attends on 2nd Thursday in every month for treatment of school children.

8. **Tuberculosis Dispensary.** — Albany Road, Sittingbourne, Mondays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. By County Council.

9. **Orthopædic Clinic.**—Health Office, Church Street. By County Council. Surgeon attends 4th Tuesday, 10 a.m. Masseuse attends 2nd Tuesday, 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays at 10 a.m. for treatment of school children.
10. **Nursing in the Home.**—Three District Nurses provided by the Sittingbourne, Milton Regis and Murston Nursing Association.
11. **Midwives.**—Five, four of these are employed by the Kent County Council under the Midwives Act, 1936.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The Dental, Ophthalmic, Aural and Orthopædic Clinics are available, by agreement between the Health Committee and the Kent County Council, for children under 5 years of age.

As the Health Committee is responsible for the cost of treatment of these children, it is essential that all appointments should be made by Medical Practitioners or parents through the Health Department in order that the necessary records may be available when accounts are presented.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (in acres).—4,935.

Resident Population (mid 1942). — Registrar - General's estimate, 19,270.

Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1942) according to Rate Books.—6,104.

Rateable Value.—£107,668.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1941-1942.—£430.

Birth Rate.—The total number of births registered was 309, consisting of 162 males and 147 females, equivalent to 16 per 1,000. In 1941 it was 13.4 per 1,000.

	Total. Males. Females.		
Live Births (Legitimate)	291	148	143
Live Births (Illegitimate)	18	14	4
Stillbirths	9	3	6

The rate of stillbirths per 1,000 total births was 25.

Death Rate.—The number of deaths during the year was 233, of which 127 were males, and 106 were females, equivalent to a rate of 12.08 per thousand of the estimated average population. In 1941 it was 12.42 per 1,000. The chief causes of death were :—(1) Heart Disease ; (2) Cancer ; (3) Cerebral Hæmorrhage ; (4) Bronchitis.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.—Nil.

Infantile Mortality.—During the year there were 16 deaths (6 boys and 10 girls), of infants under one year of age.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births, 51 ; Legitimate infants per 1,000 live births, 51. There were no deaths of illegitimate infants.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages).—35.

Deaths from Measles (all ages).—Nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages).—2.

Deaths from Diarrhœa (under two years of age).—1.

Natural Increase of Population.—The excess of births over deaths was 77, compared with 21 in the previous year.

Infectious Diseases.—During the year there were (including Tuberculosis) 231 cases notified, compared with 1,085 in the previous year. These included :—

Scarlet Fever.—95 cases, as compared with 54 in the previous year. Most of the cases were mild in type. There were no deaths. All were treated in Hospital.

Diphtheria.—Four cases as compared with twelve in the previous year. They were treated in Hospital. No fatal case.

Typhoid Fever.—One case occurred, which was treated in Hospital. There was one case in the previous year.

Measles.—Seven cases notified, all mild in type, compared with 959 in 1941.

Whooping Cough.—101 cases notified, 33 in previous year.

Infantile Paralysis.—No case notified.

Tuberculosis.—There were 15 cases of Pulmonary and 4 Non-Pulmonary cases notified, as compared with 9 Pulmonary and 3 Non-Pulmonary cases in the previous year.

Other Notifiable Diseases. — Erysipelas, 7 ; Puerperal Pyrexia, 3 ; Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Nil ; Cerebro Spinal Meningitis, 3.

A COMPARISON OF VITAL STATISTICS, Etc., OF 1942 WITH 1941

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality	Typhoid	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Tuberculosis all forms
1942	16	12.03	51	1	4	96	19
1941	13.4	12.42	22.38	1	12	54	8

INFANT MORTALITY.

ALL AGES UNDER ONE YEAR.

	Males.	Females.
Under Four Weeks	3	8
Four Weeks—Three Months	1	—
Three Months—Six Months	1	1
Six Months—Nine Months	—	—
Nine Months—One Year	1	1
Sixteen in all.		

ALL CAUSES UNDER ONE YEAR.

	Males.	Females.
Premature Birth	1	3
Congenital Causes	3	3
Broncho-Pneumonia	1	3
Enteritis	—	1
Streptococcic Throat	1	1

Here 10 deaths out of 16 resulted from premature birth and congenital causes. Of the remaining, 4 from pneumonia and 2 from germ infection.

The number of infants' deaths in the preceding years were :

1941	6
1940	19
1939	9
1938	10
1937	11
1936	12
1935	11
1934	18

MATERNAL DEATHS.

Number of women who died in, or in consequence of, child-birth in the area served by the Committee for Maternity and Child Welfare during the year :—

- (1) From Sepsis, Nil.
- (2) From other causes, Nil.

CAUSES OF DEATH REGISTERED DURING 1942

According to Returns of Registrar-General

Disease	Males	Females	Total
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	1	1
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	2	—	2
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Respiratory Tuberculosis	6	2	8
Other Tuberculosis	—	—	—
Syphilitic Diseases	1	—	1
Influenza	1	—	1
Measles	—	—	—
Cancer of Oesophagus (Male) and Uterus (Female)	—	5	5
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	4	1	5
Cancer of Breast	—	6	6
Cancer of all other sites	8	11	19
Diabetes	1	1	2
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	13	16	29
Heart Disease	37	24	61
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	1	3
Bronchitis	9	8	17
Pneumonia (all forms)	9	4	13
Other Respiratory Diseases	—	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach	7	—	7
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—	1	1
Appendicitis	—	1	1
Other Digestive Diseases	3	6	9
Nephritis	3	7	10
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	—	—	—
Premature Birth	1	3	4
Congenital Causes	3	3	6
Suicide	2	—	2
Road Traffic Accidents	1	1	2
Other Violent Causes	1	—	1
All Other Causes	13	3	16
Totals	127	106	233

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1942

Causes of Death				All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 years and over
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Respiratory Tuberculosis	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	2	2	3	1
Other Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Influenza	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer (all forms)	...	...	...	35	...	...	...	...	...	3	16	16
Diabetes	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	26
Heart Disease (all forms)	...	...	...	61	...	...	...	...	...	5	14	42
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Bronchitis	...	...	...	17	1	...	...	1	...	...	4	11
Pneumonia, all forms	...	...	...	13	4	1	...	...	1	2	3	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Ulcer of Stomach	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	6
Nephritis	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	6
Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth	...	...	...	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Causes	...	...	...	6	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suicide	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other Violence	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
All Other Causes	...	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	8
Totals 1942				233	16	2	1	3	6	18	60	127
Totals 1941				247	6	1	2	3	3	23	50	159

SCHOOL NOTIFICATIONS OF NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1942.

	Scabies	Impetigo	Chicken-Pox	Ringworm	Mumps	Rubella	Tonsillitis
January	10	4	5	—	—	—	—
February	5	—	31	—	—	—	—
March	1	—	27	—	—	1	2
April	4	—	35	—	—	—	—
May	8	—	49	—	3	—	—
June	2	1	17	—	29	—	—
July	3	3	2	—	36	—	1
August	2	2	2	—	66	—	—
September	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
October	10	2	—	—	9	—	1
November	—	9	—	—	35	—	—
December	2	2	2	—	62	—	1
Totals	47	23	170	—	240	1	5

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 15 notifications of new cases of Tuberculosis of the Lungs, as compared with 9 in 1941.

The figures for the years 1936 to 1942 were as follows :—

Year.	Pulmonary.	Rate per 1,000 of Population.	Non- Pulmonary.	Rate per 1,000 of Population.
1936	12	0.5	5	0.2
1937	12	0.6	9	0.4
1938	12	0.5	4	0.1
1939	13	0.6	4	0.1
1940	11	0.5	1	0.04
1941	9	0.45	3	0.15
1942	15	0.77	4	0.2

No action was necessary under the Regulations of the 1925 Act to prevent handling of milk by tuberculous persons.

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER.

No. on Register.	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary.	Total.
1st January, 1942	137	43	180
31st December, 1942	138	44	180

NOTIFIABLE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1942.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	95	84	Nil
Diphtheria	4	4	Nil
Typhoid Fever	1	1	Nil
Measles	7	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	101	Nil	Nil
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	3	3	1
Erysipelas	7	6	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	2	Nil
Pneumonia	3	Nil	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	Nil	Nil

AGES OF CASES NOTIFIED.

	Under 1 Year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Total
Scarlet Fever	1	4	9	6	8	51	13	2	1	—	—	—	95
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	4
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Measles	—	—	2	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	7
Whooping Cough	2	17	9	9	10	51	1	—	2	—	—	—	101
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	3
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	1	7
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	3
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals 1942	4	21	20	17	19	104	15	4	9	9	1	2	225
Totals 1941	19	64	91	89	106	585	82	12	17	3	3	2	1073

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. SECTION 172.

There was no necessity to take any action under these Regulations which provide for the compulsory removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis.

Table compiled from Local Records, giving details with regard to sex, age, etc., of notified new cases and deaths during 1942.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmon.		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmon.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1-5 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
5-10 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10-15 .....	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
15-20	1	...	...	...	2	..	...	...
20-35	5	2	3	...	2	...	...	...
35-45 .....	...	2	...	.	...	...	...	...
45-65	2	1	...	...	3	...	...	...
65 & over ...	...	1	...	..	1	...	...	...
Totals ...	8	7	4	..	8	...	...	...

TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE.

The death rate was 0.41 per 1,000 of estimated population for all forms.

According to the Registrar-General's returns deaths from tuberculosts of the lungs numbered 8, giving a death rate of 0.41 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 0.35 in the previous year, and from other forms 0 or a death rate of 0.00 per 1,000 of the population.

The following table is inserted for the purposes of comparison :—

Year	Deaths			Death Rates per 1,000 of Population		
	All Forms	Pulmon	Non-Pulmon	All Forms	Pulmon.	Non-Pulmon.
1936	11	10	1	0.5	0.4	0.04
1937	12	12	—	0.6	0.6	—
1938	8	6	2	0.3	0.2	0.09
1939	18	14	4	0.8	0.6	0.1
1940	12	11	1	0.5	0.5	0.04
1941	8	7	1	0.4	0.35	0.05
1942	8	8	—	0.4	0.4	0.00

HOSPITALS.

Keycol Hill Infectious Hospital, 110 beds.

Tuberculosis Sanatorium, 51 beds.

Under the control of the Joint Board of the Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District Council and the Swale Rural District Council. Chairman, Thomas Buggs, Esq.

Administrative Medical Officer, the Medical Officer of Health for Sittingbourne and Milton.

Clinical Medical Officers, F. M. Mallinson, M.B., B.S., and Colonel E. L. Sandland, M.B. Matron, Mrs. A. M. Jebb, S.R.N.

Memorial Hospital, Sittingbourne, number of beds, 14, and 3 cots.

The Hospital is staffed by the Medical Practitioners of Sittingbourne, and a Consultant attends when necessary. Matron, Miss M. E. Herd, S.R.N.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

1. For urgent cases and accidents the Ambulance Committee of the Urban District Council.
2. For infectious cases (Joint Board at Keycol Hill).
3. St. John Ambulance Brigade.
4. Private Ambulance of Messrs. Bowater-Lloyd.
5. A.R.P. Ambulances by permission of Sub-Controller.

LABORATORY AND ANALYSES.

Bacteriological examinations of all kinds by County Council Laboratory, Maidstone.

Analyses of milk and water, etc., by County Council, Maidstone.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

The routine inspection of school children is conducted by the Medical Officer of Health acting as Assistant to the County Medical Officer. One whole day a week is thus occupied, and attendance is made at the School Clinic every Saturday morning.

The school population is about 3,200, and is distributed in 14 elementary departments and two secondary schools.

SHELTERS.

Fortunately the Public Shelters in the town have not been much used. They remain in good structural and hygienic condition.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

These have been inspected and are in good order,

PUBLIC BATHS.

These have been inspected and are in good order.

BILLETING.

Mr. Varley is the Billeting Officer.

VACCINATIONS.

During the year 1942, 104 children were successfully vaccinated, while 135 were exempted as a result of objection on the part of the parents. It is to be regretted that so many parents refuse to take advantage of the protection afforded by this simple and safe operation.

PREMISES CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS.

Houses Let in Lodgings. — There are 2 Common Lodging Houses and 2 houses let in lodgings. Frequent visits are made to ensure compliance with the bye-laws.

Fried Fish Shops.—There are 8 in the District.

Rag and Bone Dealers.—There are 2 in the District.

Bakehouses.—7.

Meat.—There are 10 licensed Slaughter Houses in the District. During the war all except two are out of use.

MILK.

There are 2 cowkeepers, 7 milkshops and dairies, and 18 purveyors of milk.

A number of shopkeepers are selling “Sterilised Milk,” which is sold in bottles only. There are 2 retailers of Tuberculin Tested milk and 1 retailer of Pasteurised milk in the district.

Frequent inspections are made of the premises where milk is produced and retailed, and in addition periodical samples are taken for bacteriological examination.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

This involves inspection of dairies, cowsheds, bakehouses, butchers' shops, slaughter houses, fried fish shops, ice cream stores, pressed and preserved meat premises, and restaurants.

Specimens of milk are taken for examination for the number of organisms present, and also tested for the presence of Bovine Tubercle Bacilli, but the County Council is the responsible authority for sampling under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act,

ADMINISTRATION OF THE COUNTY OF KENT.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Details of samples taken by the County Sampling Officers within the administrative area of the Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District Council during the year ended the 31st December, 1942.

Article	No. of Samples
Beef Suet and Rice Flour	1
Butter	1
Flour	1
Fluid Beef	1
Ground Rice	1
Lard	1
Lemex (Lemon Substitute)	1
Mustard	1
New Milk	32
Onion Extract	1
Pea Flour	1
Pepper	1
Suet	1
Syrup of Figs	1
	—
Total	45
	—

All samples reported to be genuine.

County Hall,
Maidstone.

27th January, 1943.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1942.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,—

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of work carried out in my Department during the year 1942.

HOUSING.

Housing inspection during the year has been of a general character, but every effort has been made to keep houses weather proof and in a reasonable state of repair.

One hundred and twenty-one Intimation Notices were sent out for defects found, and the necessary repairs were carried out.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are 2 Common Lodging Houses in the District, situated in Gas Road and High Street, Milton.

These have a total accommodation of 54 beds, 30 and 24 respectively.

Frequent visits are made at varying times, and generally speaking they have been kept in a clean condition.

There are 2 Houses “ Let-in-Lodgings.”

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

All cases of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis (3), Diphtheria (4), Scarlet Fever (95), Typhoid Fever (1), Erysipelas (7), Pulmonary Tuberculosis (15), were investigated and disinfection carried out after the patients had been removed to Hospital.

Library books used by patients are disinfected before being returned.

FACTORIES ACT.

There are 74 Factories, including 7 Bakehouses on the Register. Twenty-four of these were premises where no “ mechanical power ” is used, and are under the control of the Local Authority.

Periodical inspections have been made, special attention being given to cleanliness, ventilation and sanitary accommodation. I found the premises kept in a satisfactory condition,

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary arrangements in connection with the Schools are frequently inspected and usually found in a clean and satisfactory condition.

With one exception—Holy Trinity Schools—all are provided with the “individual pan” type of Water Closet with proper flushing cisterns.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are in the District 2 Cowkeepers, 7 Dairies, and 18 Purveyors of Milk. A number of shops are retailing “Sterilised Milk,” which is sold in bottles only. We have in our district 2 retailers of “Tuberculin Tested Milk” and 1 retailer of Pastuerised Milk.

Every effort is made to maintain a high standard of cleanliness. Frequent inspections are made of the premises where the milk is produced and retailed and attention paid to the condition of cattle and utensils. In addition samples are taken regularly for bacteriological examination. A high standard was maintained.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND FOODSHOPS.

All slaughtering of animals for human consumption is now done at the two Government Slaughter Houses in East Street. During the year, 12,724 carcasses have been inspected, compared with 10,036 in the year 1941.

The following table shows details of meat and food condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

7 Bovine Carcasses (generalised Tuberculosis)	3,173 lbs.
4 ,, ,, (dropsical)	1,492 lbs.
1 ,, ,, (fevered)	472 lbs.
7 ,, ,, (Parts, with localised Tuberculosis)	1,877 lbs.
5 ,, ,, (Parts, Fevered)	678 lbs.
29 Sheep Carcasses (Emaciated and dropsical)	771 lbs.
3 Pig ,, (Dropsical)	248 lbs.
2 Calves (Fevered)	64 lbs.
Edible Offal	5,572 lbs.
	<hr/>
	14,347 lbs.
	<hr/>

Total ... 6 tons 8 cwt. 0 qr. 11 lbs.

MISCELLANEOUS FOODSTUFFS.

Carrots	5 tons
Cheese	156 lbs.
Cooked Ham	14 lbs.
Cake	26 lbs.
Butter	5 lbs.
Lobsters	12 lbs.
Kippers	15 brace
Tins of Fruit, Vegetables, Meat and Milk ...	356
Eggs	502

In addition to the Slaughter Houses, there are 22 Butchers' Shops, 8 Fried Fish Shops, and 13 Fish Shops in the District.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

Under this Act it is the duty of the occupier of lands and buildings to take all necessary steps to destroy rats and mice on or in lands or buildings and to prevent the premises becoming infested.

All complaints have been promptly dealt with and advice given. A supply of reliable Rat Poison is kept at my Office and sold at cost price.

I should like to take the opportunity of thanking the Members of the Council for their helpful co-operation and support during the year.

I beg to remain,

Yours obediently,

JOSEPH VARLEY,

Sanitary Inspector.

FAVERSHAM PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PORT SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1942.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—

During the year under review I am pleased to report that on no occasion have I found it necessary to make application or serve notices on the owners of the vessels in regard to sanitary defects.

The vessels as a whole are well kept and clean, and the water supply arrangements are satisfactory, iron tanks or barrels being used for the storage of water.

Occasionally barges freighted with manure for agricultural purposes arrive, and these before departure are properly cleaned.

As previously stated, very few rats get aboard the vessels, but, when they are found, quick measures are taken to exterminate them.

Number of vessels entering Milton Creek during the year was 542, all home traffic. Motor Vessels, 40 (tonnage 3,680), Sailing Vessels and Lighters, 502 (tonnage 62,928), of which 31 were inspected, none were found defective.

No cases of Infectious Disease.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOSEPH VARLEY.